

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-14 have been canceled, and the new claims 15-49 have been added.

The subject matter as claimed in the new claims 15 relates to a method of detecting and geographically locating a user accessing a wireless computer network. The method requires to pre-collect and pre-map performance parameters of wireless computers (devices) with respect to at least one access point within the geographical area of which the wireless computer network covers. A spatial performance model is then formed for the geographical area based on the pre-collected performance parameters, of which, a plurality of islands are defined with each island sharing substantially the same performance parameters. Accordingly, when a user is within the wireless network's coverage, the method identifies the user MAC address and IP address, and acquires at least one performance parameter of the user. The acquired user performance parameter is then mapped with the spatial performance model to match the island for locating the geographical location of the user.

With the spatial performance model having the plurality of islands, a user can be located. The plurality of islands are formed through a collection of groups of performance parameters that were pre-collected, generally through a site surveying. These islands (performance parameters) are then used as reference for comparing with the acquired performance parameter(s) in order to locate a user of the wireless network. In accordance with the present invention, one access point is sufficient to locate the user through the spatial performance model, though the claimed invention would work with more than one access point. The new claims 28-31 and various parts of the description have clearly exemplify the possible performance parameters that may be used in the present invention.

We respectfully submit that none of the cited references suggests or teaches all of the above features as claimed. In particular, we certainly disagree that a mere signal coverage by an access point can be considered an island as defined by the claimed invention. The islands are part of the spatial performance model defined under the claimed invention. Further, while we agree that signal strength is one of the performance parameters defined by the claimed invention, it is understood to a person skilled in the art that the prior art requires two or more sets of signal strength data in order to locate a user, which is not required by the claimed invention. None of prior references suggests or teaches the use of a spatial performance model to locate the user. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the subject matters are requested.

For the above reasons, Claims 16-33 are allowable because they contain all the features of claim 15. Claim 34 is a system claim that comprises all features that correspond to claim 15. Accordingly, Claim 34 and its dependent claims 35-49 are allowable for the same reasons.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the new claims 15-49 of the present application are patently defined over the prior references and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted.

Lawrence YD Ho & Associates

By: 

By: _____

George D. Liu (Reg. No. 47,752)
Tel. (703) 536-1713 Fax (703) 415-8601